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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): HIRANO, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/761,322  
Filed: January 22, 2004  
For: DECODING APPARATUS AND DECODING METHOD  
Group: 2651  
Examiner: N. Figueroa  
Conf. No.: 2662

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

November 1, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 1, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

**Amendments to the Claims**

Remarks are included following the amendments